

Section 513

1. The Administration is opposed to the inclusion of Section 513 in a Foreign Assistance Act. This Section is basically redundant in the light of Section 501 (A) (1) of the pending HR-8687, the Military Procurement Authorization Bill, and understandings, covering that Section. Section 513 as worded, would affect ongoing arrangements for U. S. assistance to Laos which also involves regional cooperation and self-help, and would have great impact on the goals in Laos. These goals would have been to aid in the orderly withdrawal of U. S. forces in South Vietnam and to preserve the precarious but important balance that exists in Laos.

2. Further, the provision of sub-Section b of Section 513 would impose impractical and undesirable requirements on executive actions without the regard for the President's responsibilities in this field.

3. If Section 513 is not struck En-to-to, the Administration holds for the reasons listed above, that "Laos" must be struck and that sub-Section b must be eliminated.